

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 3, 1999

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 19, 1999

Senate Joint Resolution

No. 5

Introduced by Senator Murray

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Vincent)

January 28, 1999

Senate Joint Resolution No. 5—Relative to the 2000 federal decennial census.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 5, as amended, Murray. The 2000 federal decennial census.

This measure would memorialize the ~~federal—government~~ *Congress of the United States, the President of the United States, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Director of the United States Census Bureau* to take immediate and appropriate steps to ensure that statistical sampling be employed to adjust the results of the 2000 federal decennial census in order that states and other local jurisdictions will receive the appropriate and accurate amount of federal funds to which they are entitled.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, A complete and accurate count of all
2 residents of the United States by the 2000 federal
3 decennial census is vital to the interests of California; and

4 WHEREAS, It has been estimated that 843,936
5 Californians went uncounted in the 1990 federal

1 decennial census, including 369,744 Hispanics, 205,475
2 Caucasians, 173,282 African-Americans, and 60,800
3 Asians; and

4 WHEREAS, Through the use of only traditional
5 tabulation methods, it has been projected that over one
6 million Californians will go uncounted in the 2000 federal
7 decennial census, including over 500,000 Hispanics, over
8 188,000 Caucasians, over 176,000 African-Americans, and
9 over 88,000 Asians; and

10 WHEREAS, The federal decennial census is used to
11 determine the amount of federal funds states and other
12 jurisdictions receive for a wide variety of important
13 programs; and

14 WHEREAS, It has been estimated that as a result of the
15 projected undercount of Californians in the 2000 federal
16 decennial census California will fail to receive over ~~one~~
17 *two* billion dollars in federal aid throughout the next
18 decade for programs including, but not limited to,
19 medicaid, highway planning and construction, family
20 support payments, unemployment insurance, foster care,
21 social services, substance abuse prevention and
22 treatment, vocational education, community
23 development, job training, and rehabilitation services;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau, the
26 National Academy of Sciences, and the American
27 Statistical Association have endorsed statistical sampling
28 as the best way to ensure that the census undercounts of
29 the past do not recur; and

30 WHEREAS, In 1998 the United States Census Bureau
31 conducted a dress rehearsal in the City of Sacramento
32 employing the statistical sampling method that resulted
33 in a count of 403,313 residents that included over 54,000
34 residents who would have gone uncounted using only
35 traditional methods; and

36 WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court in
37 Department of Commerce v. United States House of
38 ~~Representatives (1999) _____ L.Ed. 2d _____, 1999~~
39 ~~U.S. Lexis 902, Representatives (1999) 142 L.Ed.2d 797~~
40 concluded that the Census Act (13 U.S.C. Sec. 1 and



1 following) prohibits the use of statistical sampling to
2 adjust census figures for the purpose of congressional
3 apportionment but does not prohibit the use of statistical
4 sampling for other census-related purposes; now,
5 therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the Senate and Assembly of the State of*
7 *California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of*
8 *California respectfully memorializes the ~~federal~~*
9 *~~government~~ Congress of the United States, the President*
10 *of the United States, the Secretary of Commerce, and the*
11 *Director of the United States Census Bureau to take*
12 *immediate and appropriate steps to ensure that statistical*
13 *sampling be employed to adjust the results of the 2000*
14 *federal decennial census in order that the states and other*
15 *local jurisdictions will receive the appropriate and*
16 *accurate amount of federal funds to which they are*
17 *entitled; and be it further*

18 *Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit*
19 *copies of this resolution to the President and Vice*
20 *President of the United States, the Speaker of the House*
21 *of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate,*
22 *each Senator and Representative from California in the*
23 *Congress of the United States, the Secretary of*
24 *Commerce, and the Director of the United States Census*
25 *Bureau.*

